

What Are the Odds of Making a Hole-In-One?

In the year 2000, Golf Digest hired Francis Scheid, Ph.D., the retired chairman of the math department at Boston University, to calculate the odds using the latest and best information available at that time.

The odds Scheid came up with were 5,000 to 1 for a "low-handicapper," 12,000 to 1 for an "average player." If you are a low-handicapper and play 1,000 rounds in your life, according to Scheid, you have a 20-percent chance of recording an ace. If you play 5,000 rounds, your odds are 1:1.

The *Golf Digest* study provided many great nuggets of information, even breaking the odds down by quality of play:

- **Tour player making an ace: 3,000 to 1**
- **Low-handicapper making an ace: 5,000 to 1**
- **Average player making an ace: 12,000 to 1**

Some other highlights from Scheid's calculations:

- **Average player acing a 200-yard hole: 150,000 to 1**
- **Two players from the same foursome acing the same hole: 17 million to 1**
- **One player making two holes-in-one in the same round: 67 million to 1**